

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on May 28, 2004, and the references cited therewith. By this amendment, claims 16 and 19 are amended, and claims 20-31 were added. As a result, claims 16-31 are now pending in this application. Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the below remarks is requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

Rejection: Claims 16-19 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No.6,296,901.

Response: Independent claims 16 and 19 have been amended to include an additional recitation not found in claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No.6,296,901. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No.6,296,901 is now overcome.

It should be noted that no new matter has been added by this amendment.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6977 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.


Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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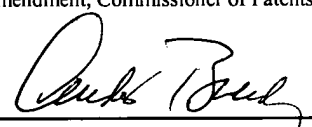
Date 10/28/2004

By  30,837
Richard E. Billion
Reg. No. 32,836

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 28 day of October, 2004.

CANDIS BUENDING

Name


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